

HOME FERTILIZER FOR FARM.

SAVING OF FARM MANURES CUTS DOWN EXPENSES.

Compost Heap is a Means of Multiplying a Supply of Manure—Directions for Establishing and Maintaining a Compost Heap That Will Accomplish What It Ought.

It is essential to their ultimate success that the farmers of the South be impressed with the importance of giving more attention to the saving of farm manures. The convenience of commercial fertilizers, the ease with which they can be obtained (they can always be bought on credit) and the fact that their use requires little forethought have led most of our farmers to forget or neglect the home supply. Another reason why home manures have been neglected is that owing to the lack of intelligent care of them the results following their use have not been satisfactory. If much good has been obtained from them, it is usually reached only by their use in such large quantities as it is difficult to secure upon the average farm.

We should not be understood as opposing the intelligent and economical use of commercial fertilizers. Commercial fertilizers have proved themselves of great value and are destined to play even a greater part in our farm economy; but it is only when used as supplements to the home product that this will be so. In the first place, they are costly; and, secondly, their exclusive use instead of effecting a permanent improvement of the soil actually hastens the depletion of that soil of its plant food. It is only when used with green manure and barnyard manures that the most permanent improvement can be accomplished.

Manure Not Properly Handled.
The small value frequently realized from the use of barnyard manure arises from the fact that it is not properly saved and handled and the manure has lost the greater part of its plant food. Barnyard manure may be regarded as just so much vegetable matter. It differs, however, from the food from which it is derived in that, having been once digested, its fertilizer elements are more available for plants.

Available plant food means that plant food that is easily decomposed and soluble in water. If the manure is left exposed to the elements, the water from rains easily and rapidly leaches out the soluble plant food. On the other hand, if the manure is allowed to heat a large amount of the nitrogen is driven off into the atmosphere; so in order to get the most valuable manure both of these sources of loss must be avoided. There are several ways of accomplishing this. Probably the best plan where it is practicable, is to haul the manure direct upon the land and plough it in—shallow on clay soils, deeper on sandy loams. Again, especially with horse manure, etc., it is good to allow the manure to remain in the stable, using plenty of litter. The animals tramp the manure down, thus excluding the air, and as it is kept dry it will keep with practically no loss. The litter used in bedding not only is itself of value as a fertilizer, but serves also to absorb all liquids and prevent their loss. If not practicable to pursue either of these methods, then a cheap shed can be provided and the manure stored in it until ready for use.

There is one precaution that must be observed when a shed is used, and especially if the droppings from horses predominate. Under these conditions the manure is apt to heat. This should be prevented by dampening it. For this reason it is a good plan to have a leaky shed—one that will not permit the entrance of enough water to leach through, but will leak enough to keep the manure moist. In case of protracted drought there should be artificial means of watering the compost. The question may arise with the farmer whether it is more economical to go to this trouble and expense with his manure or to depend upon commercial fertilizers. This question is soon answered in the affirmative.

Bear in mind that while the farmer may buy an equal number of pounds of plant food he cannot get it in as good a form, nor do the commercial fertilizers have as great an effect. They do not add vegetable matter, do not start soil fermentation and do not correct mechanical defects of the soil. A ton of well-preserved manure from a well-fed horse contains about 9.8 pounds of nitrogen, 5.2 pounds of phosphoric acid and 9.6 pounds of potash—plant food that would cost \$2.18 bought as commercial fertilizer. This is on a basis of 15 cents a pound for nitrogen, 4 1-2 cents for phosphoric acid and 5 cents for potash.

12 Tons for One Horse.

A horse weighing 1,000 pounds will produce about 12 tons of manure in a year, and this manure is consequently worth 7 3-5 cents a day, or about \$27 a year. The manure from the average cow is worth

about 6 1-2 cents a day, or \$23.20 per year. These values are based on the presumption that the animals are well fed. Where the common manure heap is used for all animals and for all farm refuse, while its composition is necessarily variable, it can safely be assumed that a ton of it will contain 12 pounds of nitrogen, 5 pounds of phosphoric acid and 6 pounds of potash. The plant fertilizers in a ton of manure are worth commercially from \$2 to \$2.25. These values do not take into consideration the indirect benefits to the soil. While the actual plant food contained in a ton of barn yard manure is worth at least \$2, it is safe to say that the farmer will derive nearer \$3 worth of good from it.

When left in loose heaps, under cover it has been found that manure loses 1.4 per cent of its nitrogen. When these heaps are not covered this loss amounts to 30 per cent. and when exposed in thin layers, as is the case when it is left on the barn lot, this loss increases to 64 per cent. Putting it differently, the same manure that, when properly cared for, is worth \$2.18 a ton, if allowed to remain in loose heaps for twelve months, is worth only \$2. When those heaps are uncovered the value falls to \$1.70, and the unprotected thin layer at the end of that time is worth only \$1.10. This is not the extent of the loss, for that portion of the fertilizer ingredients that is left is the least valuable, and what we have is really only the refuse of the formerly valuable manure. This tremendous loss from improper handling easily explains why our farmers find it necessary to use such large quantities of manure to derive much benefit from it. It will be observed that even when the manure is stored in a shed there is a loss. By covering the manure heap with certain substances it is found that not only can this loss be prevented, but that the stock of manure can be very greatly increased. A ton of ordinary loam will absorb 18 pounds of nitrogen, and if placed over the manure heap will prevent all loss of that substance. Sawdust will absorb 8 pounds per ton. Wheat straw will absorb nearly 4 pounds of the nitrogen. The necessary for absorbents brings us to the consideration of the compost heap.

By the compost heap the farmer is able to multiply his available manure many fold. We should remember that anything of vegetable or animal origin is a valuable fertilizer if put in proper condition. The compost heap is the means of doing this. One ton of leaves contains 16 pounds of nitrogen, 6 pounds of phosphoric acid and 6 pounds of potash, and at ordinary values for these substances is worth nearly \$3. A ton of straw similarly is worth \$2.25 and sawdust \$2.20. These values, of course, are based on their total composition. In actual practice it is safe to assume that half of their values are available. But it is only after undergoing fermentation in the compost heap that these values are available.

That it will pay the farmer to give more attention to the compost heap has been repeatedly proved by practical trials. At the North Louisiana experiment station, Calhoun, La., the following results were obtained: The land normally would produce one-fourth of a bale of cotton and 7 to 10 bushels of corn to the acre. By the annual application of 30 bushels per acre of a compost composed of stable manure, cotton seed, acid phosphate and loam, this yield has been increased from 1 1-4 to 1 1-2 bales of cotton and 50 to 60 bushels of corn. The annual expense of applying this compost amounted to a little over \$1 per acre.

Locate the compost heap in an old shed, or build a shed, with any kind of old material for a roof. If the shed leaks some, all the better. Spread on the ground in a layer 10 inches thick 10 bushels of stable manure, wetting thoroughly. Over this scatter 100 pounds of acid phosphate or 100 pounds of high grade ground phosphate rock. Then follow with another layer of manure and phosphate, etc. Continue these alternate layers until all the manure is used up, or until the pile has become inconveniently high; then cover the pile, both top and sides, with 4 inches of forest mold or good loam taken from the fence corners. If stable manure or mold is not available use straw, leaves or any waste material, even weeds. Be sure and wet all thoroughly. After the heap has stood from four to six weeks it should be worked over and well mixed. This is best done by beginning at one end and cutting it down vertically, throwing the manure in a pile behind. Wet again and cover again with loam. It will be ready for use in three or four weeks.

The above proportions are for use with cotton. When the compost is desired for corn the quantity of phosphate can be reduced—use only 50 pounds instead of 100 to each layer. Thirty bushels, or one two-horse wagon load, per acre of this compost will produce very marked results. When this quantity is used, it is best applied in the drill just prior to planting. If preferred, the rows can

be marked off and the compost distributed in this furrow and then bedded on. Be careful, however, not to bury it too deep, especially on clay soils. It is safe to estimate that this quantity of such a compost will more than double the crop on poor land the first year. Thus the composted land can be rotated, and in the course of a very few years all the land will be permanently improved.

Bearing in mind the supplemental value of the cowpea, it is safe to say that at least 50 per cent can be added to the productiveness of the average 100-acre farm, and that simply at the cost of a few tons of acid phosphate and a little labor. With the compost and with the cowpea at his service to save and gather nitrogen for him, the average farmer is simply throwing his money away when he buys that substance in commercial fertilizer, for he could produce all his land needs upon his farm. Economy should be his watchword, and there is no better place for him to start than by stopping the waste of nitrogen that is so flagrant throughout the whole South. The soil is the farmer's bank, and the fertility stored therein by nature is his capital. He can no more expect to draw indefinitely upon this supply without ultimately exhausting it than he could expect his check to be honored without making fresh deposits.

The people of the South have been doing this for years, and their credit in nature's bank is getting low. Every ton of hay sold from the farm, the manure from which is not returned to the soil, takes off \$4 worth of fertilizer, cotton seed about \$11, corn \$6.75. This has been going on till the farm responds reluctantly to many of our drafts.

We trust that we have made the value of farm manures sufficiently evident and that more farmers will give attention to their saving.

S. A. KNAPP,
Special Agent in Charge.

A GOOD MAN DEAD.

Dr. Samuel M. Smith, of Columbia, Passes Away.

Columbia, Jan. 10.—Dr. Samuel M. Smith, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of this city, one of the most eminent divines and scholars in the State, died suddenly at 11:30 o'clock this morning at his home here. The news of Dr. Smith's death was a severe shock to Columbians, for he has labored in this community for more than twenty years, and it is with a feeling of personal loss that his death is regretted.

Dr. Smith arose this morning feeling unwell and complained of a severe pain in his chest. He sent for his friend and family physician, Dr. R. A. Lancaster, and while conversing with Dr. Lancaster in his bedroom at 11:30 a. m., he arose to go into an adjoining room. He fell, dying instantly. Apoplexy was the cause.

Dr. Smith is survived by his wife and one son, Prof. Reed Smith, now engaged in teaching in Cincinnati. Mr. Reed Smith was at home for the Christmas holidays, and left only one week ago to return to his work.

*Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a very valuable medicine for throat and lung troubles, quickly relieves and cures painful breathing and a dangerously sounding cough which indicates congested lungs. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

No, Alonzo, a pile of filthy' here isn't necessarily a heap of dirt.

*Have you a weak throat? If so, you cannot be too careful. You cannot begin treatment too early. Each cold makes you more liable to another and the last is always the harder to cure. If you will take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy at the outset you will be saved much trouble. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

Force without judgment falls by its own weight.—Horace.

DO IT NOW.

Sumter People Should Not Wait Until It Is Too Late.

The appalling death-rate from kidney disease is due in most cases to the fact that the little kidney troubles are usually neglected until they become serious. The slight symptoms give place to chronic disorders and the sufferer goes gradually into the grasp of diabetes, dropsy, Bright's Disease, gravel or some other serious form of kidney complaint. If you suffer from backache, headaches, dizzy spells, if the kidney secretions are irregular of passage and unnatural in appearance do not delay. Help the kidneys at once. Doan's Kidney Pills are especially for kidney disorders—they cure where others fail. Over one hundred thousand people have recommended them. Here's a case at home:

Mrs. Wm. Bultman, 5 E. Calhoun St., Sumter, S. C., says: "I found Doan's Kidney Pills to be an excellent remedy. My back ached for some time and I was in almost constant misery. I finally saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised, procured a box at China's drug store and used them in accordance with the directions. They relieved the pains and strengthened my back and I have not been troubled since. I gladly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other. No. 15.

CENSUS REPORT ON GINNING.

Gives Amount of Cotton Crop Prepared Up to January 1 as 9,646,285 Bales.

Washington, Jan. 10.—The report of the census bureau issued today shows that 9,646,285 bales of cotton, counting round bales as half bales, were ginned from the growth of 1909 to January 1, 1910, as compared with 12,465,298 bales for the crop of 1908; 9,951,505 for the crop of 1907, and 11,741,039 for the crop of 1906.

The proportion for the last three crops ginned to January 1 is 95.3 per cent. for the crop of 1908, 90 for 1907 and 90.6 for 1906. The number of round bales included this year is 144,847 compared with 230,572 last year and 179,694 for the season of 1907-08. Sea Island this year aggregates 89,499; last year 86,528 and 73,425 for 1907-08.

The number of bales of cotton, counting round as half bales and excluding linters, for the crop of 1909 to January 1 by States and compared with the crop of 1909 follows:

State.	1909.	1908.
Alabama	1,017,826	1,103,338
Arkansas	657,732	910,423
Florida	60,136	66,855
Georgia	1,812,994	1,930,783
Louisiana	251,844	453,210
Mississippi	1,005,166	1,522,160
North Carolina	606,196	647,509
Oklahoma	526,602	585,010
South Carolina	1,099,718	1,175,220
Tennessee	226,791	317,010
Texas	2,336,650	2,485,007
All Other States	54,530	67,777

Grand total . . . 9,646,285 12,465,298
The distribution of sea island cotton for 1910 by States follows:

Florida, 27,482 bales; Georgia, 49,886 bales; South Carolina, 12,131.

The statistics in this report for 1910 are subject to slight corrections when checked against the individual returns of the ginner being transmitted by mail.

KILLED IN CLARENDON.

Joe White, Fifteen Years Old, Fatally Shot While Returning Home From Hunting.

Wilson, Jan. 11.—Joe White, the 15-year-old son of Henry White, was accidentally killed by Pinkney Tobias, 13 years old, on Saturday afternoon.

The boys had been hunting and stopped for a short while at a neighbor's house. When they decided to start again young Tobias threw his gun on his shoulder, when it went off, the entire load tearing through young White's neck. He died in a few minutes.

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TAX RETURNS FOR 1910.

OFFICE OF
COUNTY AUDITOR SUMTER CO.,
SUMTER, S. C., Dec. 3, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that I will attend, in person or by deputy, at the following places on the days indicated, respectively, for the purpose of receiving returns of real estate, personal property, and poll taxes for the fiscal year commencing January 1st, 1910.

Tindalls, Tuesday, Jan. 4th.
Privateer, (Jenkins' store,) Wednesday, Jan. 5th.
Manchester, Levi's, Thursday, Jan. 6th.
Wedgfield, Friday, Jan. 7th.
Claremont Depot, Monday, Jan. 10th.
Hagood, Tuesday, Jan. 11th.
Remberts, Wednesday, Jan. 12th.
Dalzell, Thursday, Jan. 13th.
W. T. Brogdon's Store, Friday, Jan. 14th.
Mayesville, Tuesday, Jan. 18th.
Shiloh, Wednesday, Jan. 19th.
Norwood's X Roads, Thursday, Jan. 20th.
Oswego, Friday, Jan. 21st.

All persons whose duty it is to make returns should be prompt to meet me at these appointments. All returns must be made before Feb. 20th, 1910.
J. DIGGS WILDER,
Auditor for Sumter Co.
1-2-8-1-21-10.

SELLERS PAYS \$500 FINE.

Columbia "Blind Tiger King" Gets Stiff Sentence for Alleged Selling of Whiskey.

Columbia, Jan. 11.—Wade Hampton Sellers, familiarly known throughout the State as the "blind tiger king of Columbia," today paid into the Richland Court of Sessions, for selling one-half pint of whiskey, the record fine for offences of this character, handing to Clerk Walker, when Judge Prince sentenced him to pay a fine of \$500 or serve six months at hard labor, the sum of \$500 in cash.

Col. C. A. Parkins was fatally injured in Greenville Tuesday afternoon by an electric car.

NEGRO TO BE HANGED.

Takes Jury Only Few Minutes to Determine Negro's Fate.

Kingstree, Jan. 11.—Johnnie Rose, alias John Wood, a negro of about 18 years, was, upon the charge of assault with criminal intent, this afternoon sentenced to pay the death penalty for his crime on Feb. 4th.

A barber in the Bronx who hails from Italy has a sign painted on his window "Barbitonsorial Parlor."

Two negro children were burned to death in a house in Richland county Monday night.

God never shuts one door but he opens another.—Irish.

The Ballot.

TWENTY-FIVE VOTES FOR

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District
Subject to rules of The Osteen Publishing Co.'s Contest. Void after January 25.

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Good Scheme!

—Phone 85

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Famous Tennessee Eggs,
Candled and Graded, at 30c doz.
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